



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1196
401-222-2080

Donald L. Carcieri

Governor

August 30, 2006

Mr. Michael Tikoian
Piccarilli & Gilstein
144 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Tikoian:

I am troubled by recent reports of the Council's inability to conduct its important business. As last Wednesday's Providence Journal reports, the Council has been unable to meet its quorum requirement too often in the last several months. Particularly troubling was one member's comment that he was "on strike" from the work of the CRMC.

I am painfully aware of the General Assembly's failure over the last two years to take necessary steps to reconstitute the Commission consistent with the people's mandate for "separation of powers." That failure has left the Council with barely a quorum to work. However, there is no excuse for engaging in intentional or reckless "no shows" of meetings. In fact, the Assembly's failure to legislate a new composition has put an increased burden and duty on each of you to be especially diligent and mindful of your responsibilities to the many Rhode Islanders who come before you. As pointed out by the Journal, the Council's failures could halt coastal development throughout the State.

Accordingly, I call on each of you to commit to the agenda set forth by the Chairman and to make special efforts to properly attend to your fiduciary responsibilities to the public and the environment on this critical State council. Members who are unable to put aside their personal differences and focus on the Council's work should resign their seat in favor of someone who will put the higher interests of the State first.

I look forward to hearing reports of renewed cooperation and commitment.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Carcieri
Governor

cc: Hon. William J. Murphy, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Hon. Joseph A. Montalbano, President of the Senate